Age of compulsory retirement.

31 Q.—SRI MADDI SUDARSANAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal pending disposal by the Government for increasing the age of compulsory retirement of Government servants under Fundamental Rule 56 from 55 years to 58 years;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that the opinions of heads of departments have been called for on the proposal;

(*c*) at what stage is this proposal;

(*d*) when final orders can be expected; and

(*e*) want the view is of the Salaries Cabinet Sub-Committee on this?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) At the instance of the late Reorganization Committee, certain select Heads of Departments were called on to report whether Heads of Departments should be empowered to retain ministerial servants for one year at a time up to 58 years of age, provided they continued to be efficient. Their replies have been received and the matter has been referred to the reconstituted Reorganization Committee for its recommendation.

(*e*) The last Salaries Cabinet Committee was not in favour of raising the age of compulsory retirement.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I have received a message from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly, transmitting a copy of the Madras Estates Land (Reduction of Rent) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 24 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on the 12th December 1947 and signed by him for the concurrence of the Council." 11-30 a.m.

III.—APPLICATION OF RULE 63 OF THE COUNCIL RULES.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Yesterday the House adopted a motion by the Government that the House pass on to the business next in order in the list of business. That is a very important matter. It requires further consideration. At what stage should the motion be made is a matter which requires further examination. Rule 63 seems to contemplate a motion actually made and the House must be in possession of such a motion before any of the kinds of motions contemplated under Rule 63 could be made. The Rule reads as follows:—

'*A motion that any meeting or business be adjourned or postponed or that the House pass to the business next in the list of business may be moved at any time and without previous notice as a distinct question, but not so as to interrupt a speech. If the motion is carried, the meeting*